

Two win AFSPC award

By Ann Chris Powell
Public affairs office

Two Team Malmstrom members won Air Force Space Command Maintenance awards for 2000.

TSgt David Doremus, 341st Logistics Support Squadron, and SrA Alexis Miranda, 341st Maintenance Squadron, each won Air Force Space Command ICBM Maintenance awards for 2000.

TSgt Doremus won the ICBM Maintenance NCO of the Year Award and SrA Miranda won the ICBM Maintenance Airman of the Year Award.

"I feel that an award like this says more about the people I work with and my supervision than me as an individual," TSgt Doremus said.

He has also won the Distinguished Graduate Award from the NCO Academy and was the NCO of the quarter for the

341st Logistics Group from January through March.

SrA Miranda has won a few awards as well. He won the Airman of the Year Award for the squadron level, he's a two-time first sergeant "Sharp Trooper" Award winner and was selected for senior airman below the zone.

He also regularly volunteers for the Airmen Against Drunk Driving program and is a member of the honor guard.

"I really didn't expect to get it (win the award)," SrA Miranda said. "It's a great feeling to win it the first time."

SSgt Matthew Paxon, 341st Maintenance Squadron and SrA Miranda's supervisor said, "I don't see how he does it all. He wants to do everything and be the best."

"Heck, if they were all like him, the office would run itself," he said. "There would be no use for NCOs."

Base hosts spouses day July 20

By CMSgt Mark Silliman
Command chief master sergeant

In appreciation of the unselfish support spouses provide to the base's military members, Malmstrom Air Force Base will celebrate Spouses Day July 20.

The day features several events, including squadron activities, an information fair, mission briefing, a working luncheon and tours of base facilities.

Base officials invite and encourage spouses of all active-duty members to attend. RSVP by July 13 by calling the family support center at 731-4900.

The FSC will take the required reservations. Main base activities start at 10:30 a.m. Squadron points of contact will have information on squadron events.

The following is a schedule of the activities planned for Spouses Day:

8 a.m., Squadron tours, briefings and

displays. Times may vary.

10:30 a.m., Information fair at Club Malmstrom

11:30 a.m., No-host working luncheon at Club Malmstrom. There will be salad or Friday fish buffet. Luncheon features:

- Wing mission briefing
- Construction update briefing
- TRICARE update briefing
- Quality-of-life briefing
- Welcome from the Great Falls community

1:30 p.m., Base tours. Bus transportation provided. Tour stops at:

- Missile trainers (Tango-09 and missile procedures trainer)
- Skills development center/Elkhorn Dining Facility
- Dormitory
- Base museum
- New housing

4 p.m., Return to Club Malmstrom.

Show me the money

Servicemembers get tax refund too

WASHINGTON (AFP) — Americans who owed federal income taxes for 2000, a check for up to \$600 will be in the mail for them by September.

Lt Col Thomas Emswiler, executive director of the Armed Forces Tax Council in the office of the assistant secretary of defense for force management policy, said military members are as eligible as other taxpayers for the federal refund that has made headlines recently.

The tax bill just signed by the president created a new tax bracket of 10 percent and made the rate retroactive to Jan. 1, he said. In the past, the lowest tax rate was 15 percent, so the 5 percent reduction allows most taxpayers to get a refund.

The law provides that the mailing of refunds start in July and be complete by the end of September. Plans now call for the first checks to be mailed July 20 and the last batch Sept. 28. Taxpayers will receive letters in July explaining how much to expect and when.



Anyone who had a federal tax liability for 2000 is eligible providing they weren't claimed as someone else's dependent, Lt Col Emswiler said.

Liability means owing more than the amount of nonrefundable credits, such as education

and child care credit. Refundable credits, such as the earned income tax credit, don't count for determining eligibility or the amount of the refund.

"If you filed a joint return last year and had at least \$12,000 in taxable income, you'll receive a \$600 refund," he said. "That \$600 represents the difference between taxing \$12,000 at 15 percent and taxing it at 10 percent as provided for under the new law."

"If you filed as head of household last year and had at least \$10,000 in taxable income, you'll get a refund of \$500. Most taxpayers who filed as single last year and had at least

Tax refund list

Date mailed	Last 2 digits of SSN
July 20.....	00-09
July 27.....	10-19
Aug. 3.....	20-29
Aug. 10.....	30-39
Aug. 17.....	40-49
Aug. 24.....	50-59
Aug. 31.....	60-69
Sept. 7.....	70-79
Sept. 14.....	80-89
Sept. 21.....	90-99

Source: Internal Revenue Service

\$6,000 in taxable income will get a refund of \$300," he continued.

Persons claimed as dependents, such as children, college students and elderly parents, receive no refund. Further more, Lt Col Emswiler said, the refunds he cited are maximums — persons who reported less than the threshold incomes will receive proportionally smaller refunds.

"But as long as you had some tax liability in 2000, you'll get a refund," he said.

Eligible taxpayers need only ensure the Internal Revenue Service has their correct mailing address, Lt Col Emswiler said. Servicemembers should notify the post office of moves or file IRS Form 8822, "Change of Address," with the IRS.

The IRS plan is to issue refunds according to the last two digits of taxpayers' Social Security numbers, he said.

Refunds for those with "00" will be among the earliest checks mailed in July; "99s" will be among the last in September. The process is scheduled to take three months because 96 million checks are involved.

(Courtesy of American Forces Press Service)

Youth of the year goes to D.C.

300 hours of time adds up to top notch youth's victory for volunteering

Story and photo Harold Barnes III
Public affairs office

Malmstrom's Youth of the Year is on his way to Washington, D.C., to compete for the Air Force Space Command Youth of the Year.

Michael Stevens, 14, has been a member

of Team Malmstrom since he was 6 years old and participated in volunteer activities and with the youth activity center.

Stevens has volunteered more than 300 hours of his time to several different activities on and off base.

He has volunteered for the Special Olympics, Senior Citizen Holiday party, carnivals, concession stands, open houses, summer day camp and other activities and events.

Stevens is also the disc jockey for monthly dances held at the YAC. He helped plan a Halloween haunted house and was the lights and stage manager for

TADA Theater Group.

Stevens has been involved with TADA since the first performance.

Dawn Beal, YAC school-age coordinator, said, "He is an extremely positive role model for the children enrolled in the summer camp program."

Stevens said volunteering is important to his future.

Stevens said, "I'm learning job skills I can use in the future through volunteering. Even after I get a job, I'll continue to help with events (at the YAC) and participate with volunteer activities."